

# Press Release

## HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### Department of Community Services



#### PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe  
Harford"

#### EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,  
Building for the Future"

#### EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

#### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining  
Harford's Prosperity"

#### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our  
Environment"

#### QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is  
Important to Harford  
County Citizens"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 19, 2012

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### **Annual Humanitarian Awards Luncheon**

#### *Honoring Civil Rights Leaders Martin Luther King, Jr. and Joseph Bond*

(Bel Air, MD) - - On Thursday, January 17, 2013, the Harford County Department of Community Services, Human Relations Commission, will sponsor the annual Joseph Bond/Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Awards Luncheon to celebrate the memory and service of local civil rights leader Joseph Bond and internationally renowned Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. at Beechtree Clubhouse, 811 South Stepney Road in Aberdeen.

This year's guest speaker will be Major General Robert S. Ferrell, Aberdeen Proving Ground Senior Installation Commander and Commanding General of the Army's Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM). As Commander, Maj. Gen. Ferrell leads a world-wide organization of over 11,000 military and civilian personnel responsible for coordinating, integrating and synchronizing the entire life-cycle management of the C4ISR systems for all of the Army's battlefield mission areas – maneuver control, fire support, air defense, intelligence, combat services support, tactical radios, satellite communications, and the warfighter information network.

One of the highlights of the event will be the presentation of the winner of the 2013 writing contest sponsored by the Human Relations Commission. The writing contest was open to Harford County high school seniors.

Participants wrote about how they fulfill Dr. King's statement, "*All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence.*" The roughly hour-long luncheon, which includes words of encouragement and inspiration, musical talents of area students, and a meal, serves as the backdrop for honoring these young unsung heroes and to charge attendees to become more involved in community service.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday is the only federal holiday observed as a national day of service: "a day on, not a day off." Countless Americans of varying ages, backgrounds, and ethnicities plan to join together to complete numerous community service projects.

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*Annual Humanitarian Awards Luncheon*  
*December 19, 2012*  
*Page Two*

Tickets for the Humanitarian Awards Luncheon are \$20 each. For more information, to request accommodations or to purchase tickets, please call the Human Relations Commission at 410-638-4739. The Commission is one of five supporting the Department of Community Services, works to bring harmony, equity and equality to the citizens of Harford County.

- 30 -

“Preserving Harford’s past; promoting Harford’s future”